

From Here to There: How to Develop a Thematic Course and Progression of Assignments for the Accelerated Classroom

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Here is a space to write down any questions you have for us.
We will do our best to address questions at the end of the presentation.
If we do not get to your question, feel free to email us.

The Five Principles of Acceleration

- **Backwards design from college-level courses:** Instruction should be aligned with students' educational pathways, with pre-college writing courses focused on teaching the same kinds of reading, writing and thinking skills students will use in college-level writing.
- **Relevant, thinking-oriented curriculum:** Curriculum should engage students with issues that matter and provide thought-provoking, open-ended problems.
- **Just-in-time remediation:** Instructors should provide help for students when the need arises as they work through college-level reading and writing assignments.
- **Low-stakes, collaborative practice:** Students should participate in in-class activities that give them practice with the most high-priority skills and content needed for the later graded assignments.
- **Support for student's affective needs:** Instructors should help students through emotional or psychological barriers that block learning and have nothing to do with their cognitive ability

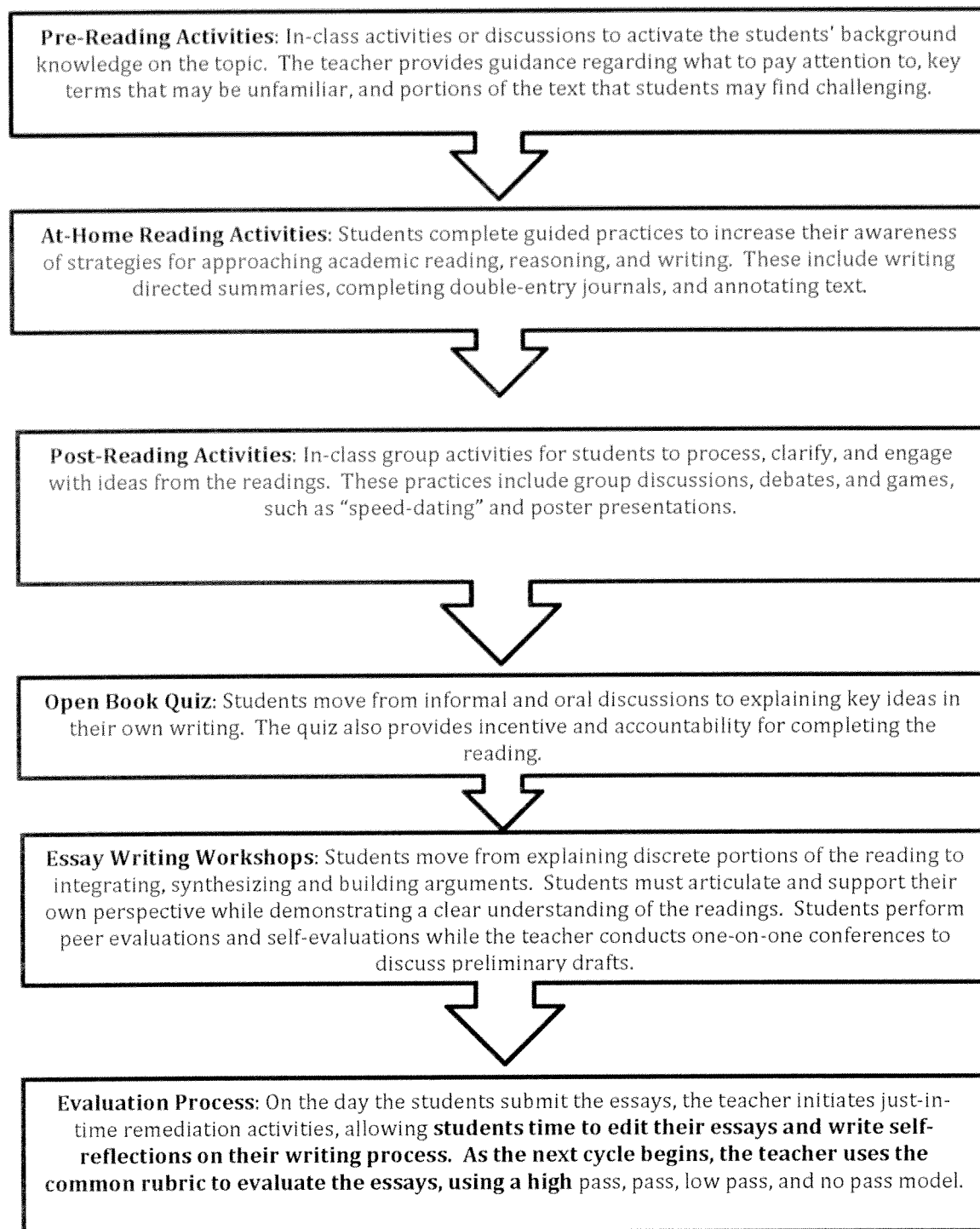
Notes:

The Instructional Cycle

1. Pre-Reading Activities: In-Class Preview
2. Reading Activities: At-Home Strategies
3. Post-Reading Activities: In-Class Collaboration
4. Open Book Quiz: In-Class or Take-Home
5. Essay Writing Workshops: Peer Reviews, "Troubleshooting," Conferences, and Self-Evaluation
6. Evaluation Process: Focus on Strengths and Future Assignment Goals

Notes:

Instructional Cycle for Irvine Valley College's
WR 399: Accelerated Introduction to College Writing
Cycle repeated for each major unit of the course



Course Theme: Habits		Theme: Habits		Driving Questions		Main Goals		Texts:	
Essay/Unit #	Type of Essay	How Completed	Prompt						
1	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class	For this assignment, we have read about several traits and concepts that can influence how students perform in the classroom: grit, fixed and growth mindset, habits of mind, autonomy, mastery, purpose, and how students react to the mark teachers set. For this assignment, I would like you to choose one of these traits or concepts, explain it for your readers by using information from the text that explains that trait or concept, and discuss how this trait or concept has impacted your motivation as a student.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively summarize a key concept from the text for readers who have not read the text. Choose specific examples and discuss how those examples illustrate how your chosen topic has impacted your motivation as a student. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Significance of Grit" by Deborah Perkins-Gough and Angela Duckworth "The Key to Success? Grit" Angela Duckworth's TED talk Brainology: Transforming Students' Motivation to Learn" by Carol Dweck "Habits of Mind" and excerpt from Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing <i>Drive: The Surprising Truth about What Motivates Us</i> by Daniel Pink—Ch. 1, 4, 5, and 6 "I Just Wanna Be Average" by Mike Rose 				
2	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class	For this assignment, you will explain how a habit you have (or have had) follows the habit loop as explained by Charles Duhigg in Chapters 1-3 of his book <i>The Power of Habit</i> and come up with a plan to change this habit (or explain how you already changed it) based on Duhigg's discussion of habit change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your plan for habit change based on Duhigg's theories Effectively summarize Duhigg's theories of habit formation and change for readers who have not read the text Analyze a specific habit by applying Duhigg's theories to create a plan for habit change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Power of Habit Chapters 1-3 				
3	Text to "Word" Analysis	In-Class	For this assignment, you will evaluate the effectiveness of a retail store's layout and marketing strategies by using the ideas from Malcolm Gladwell's article "The Science of Shopping" and Chapter 7 of <i>The Power of Habit</i> to compare what the experts suggest a retail store should do to the strategies actually used by the retail store you have chosen to see how effectively your chosen store markets its products to customers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about the degree to which Angie Bachmann should be held accountable for her debt and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim with ideas from both texts Effectively summarize Angie Bachmann's story and ideas from Duhigg's book and Slater's chapter that support your claim. Critically analyze the degree to which you believe Bachmann is responsible for her debt, using Duhigg's theories about habits and the theories of addiction discussed in Slater's chapter, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Power of Habit Chapter 9 "Rat Park: The Radical Addiction Experiment" by Lauren Slater (from her book <i>Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century</i>) 				
4	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class	For this assignment, you will argue whether Angie Bachmann should be held accountable for her gambling debts based on what you learned about addictions from "Rat Park: The Radical Addiction Experiment" by Lauren Slater and habits from Charles Duhigg's <i>The Power of Habit</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about the nature of cruel behavior and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from Milgram's article and Slater's chapter. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about the nature of human cruelty, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Perils of Obedience" by Stanley Milgram In the Unlikely Event of a Water Landing, Darley and Latane's Training Manual—A Five Stage Approach" by Lauren Slater (from her book <i>Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century</i>) 				
5	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class	Some people believe that it is human nature to be cruel to others. These people might argue that this innate cruelty is why Stanley Milgram's subjects acted as they did and why no one helped Kitty Genovese. Others might believe there were other forces behind these seemingly cruel acts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about motivation, change, and/or response to adversity and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your memoir's message, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir 				
6	Text to Analyze Memoir	Out of Class	For your final essay assignment, you will be analyzing your memoir through the lens of the readings we have completed this semester. Your essay should focus on making a claim about the overall message of the memoir based on what we have learned about the different ways in which people are motivated, how people can change, and how people respond to adversity through the various texts we have read this semester.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about motivation, change, and/or response to adversity and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your memoir's message, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir 				
7	Reflection	In-Class	For this assignment, you will write a 3-4 page essay in which you discuss to what extent you have developed these habits of mind through your experiences in this class. You should focus your essay on 3-4 of these habits of mind you believe are most important. You should also include in your essay advice for someone taking this class next semester. What are the best ways to help develop these habits of mind in this class? Discuss what worked well for you and what you would do differently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about motivation, change, and/or response to adversity and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your memoir's message, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habits of Mind, Essays 1-6, In-class assignments/practice. 				

Course Theme
Driving Question:

Essay/Unit #	Type of Essay	How Completed	Prompt/ Driving Question	Main Goals	Texts:
1	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively summarize a key concept from the text for readers who have not read the text. Choose specific examples from your personal experience and discuss 	
2	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim your personal experiences in relation to concepts from the text. Effectively summarize concepts from the text related to your claim for readers who have not read the text. Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about something you witnessed in the "real world" based on the ideas from the texts Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers Effectively summarize the concepts from the text related to your claim for 	
3	Text to "World" Analysis	In-Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim a concept/story/experience you read about in a text and state the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) using support from both that text and a second text. Provide effective and developed support for your claim with ideas from both texts. Effectively summarize the concept/story/experience you are analyzing and the ideas from both texts that support your claim Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about a conceptual argument that we read about in two texts and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from two texts. Critically analyze the ideas in both texts to make a claim about the conceptual argument and explain this analysis to readers. 	
4	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about the class theme and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) based on texts we have read this semester. Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message about our class theme. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir
5	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about the class theme and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) based on texts we have read this semester. Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message about our class theme. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir
6	Text to Analyze Memoir	Out of Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how you have grown as a student/writer/thinker this semester based on the skills/habits discussed in the text. Provide specific examples from your experiences this semester to illustrate your claims. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir
7	Reflection	In-Class		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how you have grown as a student/writer/thinker this semester based on the skills/habits discussed in the text. Provide specific examples from your experiences this semester to illustrate your claims. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Memoir

Theme: Success

Question: What is success, how is it measured, and what internal and external factors influence one's ability to be successful?

Essay #	Type of Essay	How Completed	Prompt Driving Question	Main Goals	Texts
1	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class	For this assignment, we have read about several traits and concepts that can influence how students perform in the classroom: grit, fixed and growth mindset, habits of mind, and how teachers affect learning. For this assignment, I would like you to choose two of these traits or concepts, explain it for your readers by using information from the text that explains that trait or concept, and discuss how this trait or concept has impacted your ability to be a successful student.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively summarize a key concept from the text for readers who have not read the text. Choose specific examples from your personal experience and discuss how those examples illustrate your claim and connect to the concepts in the text. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "The Significance of Grit" by Deborah Perkins-Gough and Angela Duckworth (handout) "The Key to Success? Grit" Angela Duckworth's TED talk (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H14BduLU8B8) (Optional) "Brainology: Transforming Students' Motivation to Learn" by Carol Dweck (handout) "Habits of Mind" and excerpt from "Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing" "How Teachers Make Children Hate Reading" by John Holt
2	Text to Personal Experience	Out of Class	For this assignment, you will develop an extended definition for success, and explain what characteristics of motivation are present when someone is successful. Then you will provide an extended example from your own life when you were successful and analyze this incident with the criteria you developed in your definition to explain why you were successful. Next, you will describe an incident when you were not successful, and explain what criteria from your definition was missing to help, at least in part, explain why you did not meet this particular challenge. Finally, you will conclude your essay with how you plan to apply your definition of success to your behaviors moving forward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim your personal experiences in relation to concepts from the text. Effectively summarize concepts from the text related to your claim for readers who have not read the text. Apply the concepts in the text to your own experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drive Chapters 1, 4, 5, 6 "Success"
3	Text to "World" Analysis	In-Class	For this assignment, you will evaluate an individual by using the ideas in Letter's article and Fey's chapter to determine whether or not someone is superficially successful, or if they hold personally traits that more broadly make them successful. You may also reference past texts to help answer this question; however, you MUST use ideas from both of the new texts as well. Also, keep in mind that the person you select should be someone you already know a lot about, or is someone that you can easily find information about if needed (who they are, not just what they've done).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim a concept/skill/experience you read about in a text and state the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) using support from both that text and a second text. Provide effective and developed support for your claim with ideas from both texts. Effectively summarize the concept/skill/experience you are analyzing and the ideas from both texts that support your claim. Critically analyze the way in which the ideas from the texts support your claim and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers. Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about a conceptual argument that we read about in two texts and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from two texts. Critically analyze the ideas in both texts to make a claim about the conceptual argument and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers. Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about the class theme and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) based on texts we have read this semester. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "The Science of Success" by David Dobbs* "That's Don Fey" from Bossy Pants by Tina Fey* "The Stories that Bind Us" by Bruce Feller* "A Childhood Dream, Realized" from Bossy Pants by Tina Fey "Don't! The Secret to Self-Control" by Jonah Lehrer You may also use the articles from essays 1 and 2 to help you answer this prompt, however you MUST use the articles assigned for this essay as well. They are marked with an *
4	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class	For this assignment, you will argue the extent to which you believe family influences one's ability to be successful. Using the articles about family influence on, and internal drivers for, success, and using Tina Fey's story of her family and father from "That's Don Fey" as a case study, argue how much you think Fey's family helped influence her success. In what ways Fey exhibits the internal qualities that help someone to become successful, and if there is a connection between her family's influence and why she has those internal drivers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about a conceptual argument that we read about in two texts and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement). Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from two texts. Critically analyze the ideas in both texts to make a claim about the conceptual argument and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers. Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about the class theme and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) based on texts we have read this semester. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Black Like Them" by Malcolm Gladwell "10 Words Every Girl Should Learn" by Soraya Chemaly "The Windy City Full of Heart" by Tina Fey You may also use the articles from essays 1-4 to help you answer this prompt, however you MUST use the articles assigned for this essay as well.
5	Text to Conceptual Argument	Out of Class	For this assignment, you will argue the extent to which you believe race and/or gender influences one's ability to be successful. Using the articles about race and gender, as well as thinking about Tina Fey's experiences at Second City, construct an argument about how you think race and/or gender can help or inhibit (or possibly both) someone's ability to take the steps needed for advancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus your essay with a strong thesis statement that makes a claim about your chosen memoir's message about the class theme and states the reasons for that claim (your "because" statement) based on texts we have read this semester. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texts from Units A, B, C Selected Memoir
6	Text to Analyze Memoir	Out of Class	For your final essay assignment, you will be analyzing your memoir through the lens of the readings we have completed this semester. Your essay should focus on making a claim about the overall message of the memoir based on what we have learned about the different ways in which people are able to succeed, how people deal with external obstacles (i.e. family, race, gender issues), and how people respond to adversity in order to succeed through the various texts we have read this semester.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide effective and developed support for your claim by summarizing the ideas from your memoir as well as the other three texts you are using to analyze your memoir's message about our class theme. Critically analyze the ideas in the text to make a claim about your memoir's message, and explain this analysis to readers. Create organized paragraphs that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texts from Units A, B, C Selected Memoir
7	Reflection	In-Class	For this assignment, you will write a 3-4 page essay in which you discuss to what extent you have developed these habits of mind through your experiences in this class. You should focus your essay on 3-4 of these habits of mind you believe are most important. You should also include in your essay advice for someone taking this class next semester. What are the best ways to help develop these habits of mind in this class? Discuss what worked well for you and what you would do differently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how you have grown as a student/writer/thinker this semester based on the skills/habits discussed in the text. Provide specific examples from your experiences this semester to illustrate your claims. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays 1-6: Class notes, professor feedback, peer reviews, etc.

In Essay 5, we will continue to work on making connections among the ideas in two texts. Like we have done all semester, we will work on carefully reading and understanding the texts, but this time, we'll be making connections among the ideas from two texts to answer an important question about human behavior. This will require that you continue to choose strong specific examples from the text and explain your analytical connections to readers.

Main Goals for Essay 5

- Focus your essay with a strong **thesis statement** that makes a **claim** about the nature of cruel behavior and states the **reasons** for that claim (your “because” statement).
- Provide effective and developed **support for your claim** by **summarizing** the ideas from Milgram’s article and Slater’s chapter.
- **Critically analyze** the ideas in the text to make a claim about the nature of human cruelty, and **explain this analysis** to readers.
- Create **organized paragraphs** that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers

Texts for Essay 5

- “The Perils of Obedience” by Stanley Milgram
- “In the Unlikely Event of a Water Landing: Darley and Latane’s Training Manual—A Five Stage Approach” by Lauren Slater (from her book *Opening Skinner’s Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century*)

Prompt for Essay 5

Some people believe that it is human nature to be cruel to others. These people might argue that this innate cruelty is why Stanley Milgram’s subjects acted as they did and why no one helped Kitty Genovese. Others might believe there were other forces behind these seemingly cruel acts.

For Essay 5, I would like you to use the ideas from the texts to explore the nature of human cruelty and answer these questions:

- How can circumstances affect cruel behavior?
- What does this tell you about how cruelty fits into our human nature?

In coming up with your own position on this issue, think about all that you’ve learned from the cases we have read about and be sure to include support from your argument from both texts, including

- “The Perils of Obedience” by Stanley Milgram,
- The Kitty Genovese case and Darley and Latane’s experiments (both the seizure and the smoke experiment) from Slater’s chapter

Consider the grey areas rather than arguing strictly on one side or the other. Instead of saying YES we are innately cruel, or NO we are not innately cruel, try to come up with a more complex answer to explain human behavior in these cases.

Things to Shoot For:

- Show that you have carefully read the texts from this unit, and that you have fully understood and considered the different viewpoints and evidence.
- Show you are really thinking about the topic—these are complex questions, so don’t settle for easy answers
- Write so that someone not in our class could understand it. Assume your audience has not read these texts. That means you’ll need to briefly summarize key ideas/information and explain any unfamiliar terms.
- Write at least 4 complete pages..

Turn-in Procedures:

- Your final draft is due **Thursday, April 23rd** and we **will not meet in LIB 101** to turn in your essay, so make sure you upload it before class on that day. Bring your assignment folder with any rough drafts, your completed Writing Center signature form, your completed grammar review reflection, and a blank rubric to class on the due date.

Writing Center Requirements

- **Your formal conference must be completed by the end of the day on Wednesday, April 22nd.**

Essay 5 at a Glance

In Essay 5, we are using the concepts presented in texts to help us formulate an argument about another concept or ideas. We will continue to work on carefully reading and understanding the texts, but this time, we'll be choosing strong specific examples to illustrate the connections we make from a text that can help us develop and illustrate an argument.

Main Goals for Essay 5

- Focus your essay with a strong **thesis statement** that makes a **claim** about the relationship between gender and success and/or race and success and provides **reasons** for that claim (your "because" statement).
- Provide effective and developed **support for your claim** by **summarizing** the ideas from Gladwell, Fey, and Chemaly (and the texts from previous assignments as appropriate)
- **Critically analyze** the ideas in the text to make a claim about the relationship between gender/race and success, and **explain this analysis** to readers.
- Create **organized paragraphs** that focus on one main point and divide your argument into manageable chunks for your readers

Texts for Essay 5

- "Black Like Them" by Malcom Gladwell
- "10 Words Every Girl Should Learn" by Soraya Chemaly
- "The Windy City Full of Meat" by Tina Fey
- You may also use the articles from essays 1-4 to help you answer this prompt, however you **MUST** use the articles assigned for this essay as well.

Essay 5 Prompt

For this assignment, you will argue the extent to which you believe race and/or gender influences one's ability to be successful. Using the articles about race and gender, as well as thinking about Tina Fey's experiences at Second City, construct an argument about how you think race and/or gender can help or inhibit (or possibly both) someone's ability to take the steps needed for advancement.

In order to construct your argument, you will need to define success, determine what factors influence success, and then argue about what role someone's race and/or gender plays on their ability to achieve their goals. In other words, are there additional obstacles people of different races and genders face on their way to being successful, and do these obstacles prevent them from achieving success. You will use the information in the article we read to support your argument and point of view.

Your essay should:

- Include a strong thesis claim and reasons in support of this claim
- Include details, examples, and quotations from the texts to help you develop your argument.
- Talk about complexities—for example, you might think about Fey's grittiness, explain how her family helped her to become gritty, but then also discuss the obstacles she faced in her career because she was a woman. Did she need a strong family and motivation because she was a woman and facing additional obstacles, or does the fact she's a woman factor into things at all? Make sure you use specific examples to help you support your ideas.
- Use your critical voice to explain **WHY** you've reached your conclusions about the relationship between family and success.
- Be **written in 3rd person only**

You should write your essay for people who are NOT in this class and are not familiar with the readings. This means you need to summarize key ideas, define any terms that might be unfamiliar, and choose short quotations from the readings to help your reader get a sense of what the authors are talking about and how their ideas support your ideas.

Turn-in Procedures

- For Essay 4, we will have some in-class writing time. The final draft will be due at the beginning of class on **Friday, 4/24/15**.
- You will turn in your final draft, signature form, blank rubric, rough drafts, and prewriting.
- You must complete a Writing Center Conference by the end of the day on **Wednesday, 4/22/15**.